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SKATEBOARD

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

The present invention is a continuation-in-part (CIP) application of the co-pending U.S. serial No. 09/213/275, filed on December 17, 1998, ^{now abandoned}

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to a skateboard.

2. Description of Related Art

A first conventional skateboard in accordance with the prior art shown in Fig. 3 comprises an elongated solid body (40) made of plastic by means of an injection molding process, two support brackets (41) each secured on one of the two end portions of the elongated body (40) and each having two wheels (42) each rotatably mounted on one of the two end portions thereof. However, the solid body (40) is heavy, thereby decreasing its portability and increasing the cost of manufacturing. In addition, the solid body (40) lacks flexibility and elasticity, thereby reducing the manipulation and movement of the skateboard. Moreover, the elongated body (40) made of plastic cannot be reused when it is worn out.

A second conventional skateboard in accordance with the prior art shown in Figs. 4 and 5 comprises an elongated sheet-shaped body (50) made of an alloy, a reinforcing frame (52) secured on the bottom of the body (50), two support brackets (52) each secured to one of the two end portions of the reinforcing frame (51) and each having two wheels (54) each rotatably mounted on one of the two end portions thereof. However, the sheet-shaped body (50) is weak and is easily deformed when hit by foreign objects.

The present invention has arisen to mitigate and/or obviate the disadvantage of the conventional skateboards.

1 SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

2 In accordance with one aspect of the present invention, there is provided a skateboard
3 comprising an elongated body including a top plate, a bottom plate and two opposite closed
4 side plates each located between the top plate and the bottom plate, and a plurality of
5 reinforcing ribs each longitudinally arranged in the elongated body and each supported
6 between the top plate and the bottom plate.

7 The elongated body includes a support base formed on the mediate portion of the top
8 plate thereof, and the skateboard comprises two strengthened frames each longitudinally
9 arranged in the elongated body located adjacent to the support base, and each supported
10 between the top plate and the bottom plate. Preferably, the elongated body, the reinforcing
11 ribs and the strengthened frames are integrally made of an aluminum alloy.

12 The skateboard further comprises a foam core material inside the elongated body located
13 between each of the strengthened frames and reinforcing ribs. The skateboard further
14 comprises two flexible protective pads each secured on one of the two end portions of the
15 elongated body.

16 Further benefits and advantages of the present invention will become apparent after a
17 careful reading of the detailed description with appropriate reference to the accompanying
18 drawings.

19 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

20 Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a skateboard in accordance with the present invention;

21 Fig. 2 is a front plan view in partial section of the skateboard as shown in Fig. 1;

22 Fig. 3 is a perspective view of a first conventional skateboard in accordance with the
23 prior art;

24 Fig. 4 is a partial top plan view of a second conventional skateboard in accordance with

1 the prior art; and

2 Fig. 5 is a front plan view in partial section of the skateboard as shown in Fig. 5.

3 DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

4 Referring now to Figs. 1-2, a skateboard in accordance with the present invention
5 comprises an elongated hollow body (10) including a top plate (11), a bottom plate (12) and
6 two opposite closed side plates (13) each located between the top plate (11) and the bottom
7 plate (12), two support brackets (20) each secured on one of the two end portions of the
8 bottom plate (12) of the elongated body (10) by means of four bolts (15) and each having two
9 wheels (22) each rotatably mounted on one of the two end portions thereof, and two flexible
10 protective pads (30) each secured on one of the two end portions of the elongated body (10).

11 The skateboard further comprises a plurality of reinforcing ribs (14) each longitudinally
12 arranged in the elongated body (10) and each formed between the top plate (11) and the
13 bottom plate (12).

14 The elongated body (10) includes a support base (100) formed on the mediate portion
15 of the top plate (11) thereof, and the skateboard further comprises two strengthened frames
16 (141) each longitudinally arranged in the elongated body (10) adjacent to the support base
17 (100), and each formed between the top plate (11) and the bottom plate (12). Bolts (15)
18 respectively extend through the strengthened frames (141). The elongated body (10), the
19 reinforcing ribs (14) and the strengthened frames (141) are integrally made of single
20 moldable material, such as an aluminum alloy.

21 In such a manner, the elongated body (10) is made hollow, thereby greatly reducing the
22 weight thereof so as to increase its portability and to decrease the cost of fabrication. In
23 addition, the elongated body (10) is both flexible and elastic due to its hollow design. Further,
24 the elongated body (10) is made very strong by means of the reinforcing ribs (14) and the

1 strengthened frames (141) such that it is not easily deformed when it hits or is hit by foreign
2 objects. Moreover, the elongated body (10) is integrally made of an aluminum alloy such that
3 it can be recycled after being worn out.

4 It should be clear to those skilled in the art that further embodiments may be made
5 without departing from the scope and spirit of the present invention.

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